

VILLAGE OF LAKE ODESSA
MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 15, 2026
PAGE MEMORIAL BUILDING
839 FOURTH AVENUE
LAKE ODESSA, MICHIGAN 48849

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Village President Karen Banks.

ROLL CALL

Council present: President Karen Banks, Trustee Mike Brighton, Trustee Bob Green, Trustee Roy Halfmann, Trustee Neena Rush, Trustee Martha Yoder

Council absent: Trustee Ben DeJong

Staff present: Village Manager Mark Borden, Clerk/Treasurer Kathy Forman, Police Chief Kendra Backing

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Yoder, supported by Brighton, to approve the agenda as amended. All ayes; motion carried 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Ruth Ann Stuart spoke about their Brownfield development as well as the new Brownfield request for the development of the old football field.
2. Susan Mesack shared examples of positive outcomes with approval of the proposed TIF.

MINUTES

Motion by Green, supported by Rush, to approve the minutes from the regular Village Council meeting of May 18, 2026 and the minutes from the special Village Council meeting of May 20, 2026. All ayes; motion carried 6-0.

BILLS

Motion by Rush, supported by Halfmann, to approve expenditures equal to or less than \$3,000.00 for the period 5/1/2026 through 5/31/2026. All ayes; motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Yoder, supported by Brighton, to approve bills in excess of \$3,000 as submitted. All ayes; motion carried 6-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Minutes from the Lake Odessa Area Arts Commission regular meeting of May 12, 2026

Motion by Rush, supported by Green, to approve the consent agenda. All ayes; motion carried, 6-0.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Village Manager: Report submitted.
Police Department: Report submitted.
Department of Public Works: Report submitted.
Finance: Report submitted.
Zoning: Report submitted.

PUBLIC HEARING

- a) Close Out MSHDA Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), CHILL Homeowner Improvement Grant – MSF-2023-914-CDB

Motion by Green, supported by Rush, to open the Public Hearing regarding the Close Out MSHDA Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), CHILL Homeowner Improvement Grant – MSF-2023-914-CDB. All ayes; motion carried, 6-0

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:18pm.

President Banks asked for public comment, none was heard. The Public Hearing was noticed per state law, and no public comment has been received.

Motion by Halfmann, supported by Yoder, to close the Public Hearing. All ayes; motion carried, 6-0.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:19pm.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Proposed Resolution 2026-41: Approval to Amend Village Council Rules of Procedure

Motion by Yoder, supported by Rush, to adopt proposed Resolution 2026-41. Banks called for a roll call vote. Yes: Brighton, Green, Halfmann, Rush, Yoder, Banks; No: None; Absent: DeJong; Abstain: None. Motion carried 6-0.

- b) Proposed Resolution 2026-42: Approval to Allow Village Participation in a Community “Ring of Fire” Activity at Municipal Beach on Saturday, July 4, 2026

Motion by Green, supported by Brighton, to adopt proposed Resolution 2026-42. Banks called for a roll call vote. Yes: Brighton, Green, Halfmann, Rush, Yoder, Banks; No: None; Absent: DeJong; Abstain: None. Motion carried 6-0.

- c) Proposed Resolution 2026-43: Accepting Proposal from the Michigan Municipal League Workers’ Compensation Fund for Insurance Coverage Effective July 1, 2026

Motion by Halfmann, supported by Rush, to adopt proposed Resolution 2026-43. Banks called for a roll call vote. Yes: Brighton, Green, Halfmann, Rush, Yoder, Banks; No: None; Absent: DeJong; Abstain: None. Motion carried 6-0.

- d) Proposed Resolution 2026-44: Approving, Authorizing, and Directing the Village President to Sign a Fireworks Permit for the Lake Odessa Fair for Sunday, June 28, 2026

Motion by Green, supported by Halfmann, to adopt Resolution 2026-44. Banks called for a roll call vote. Yes: Brighton, Green, Halfmann, Rush, Yoder, Banks; No: None; Absent: DeJong; Abstain: None. Motion carried 6-0

e) Brownfield TIF

Ryan Schmidt, from Indigo Design, spoke about the proposed TIF. There have been questions about the fire department coverage for a three-story building. Ryan spoke with Fire Chief Perkins about the concerns. He also wanted to clarify that there would be fire suppression in every unit per code. Several council members asked questions and shared their thoughts about the project. President Banks explained the options at this time. Council can approve the resolution as is or refer it to Village Manager Borden for more research. After the discussion was finished council authorized Village Manager Borden to negotiate with Indigo Design and Copper Rock for a services agreement.

There will be a special council meeting on Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at 5:30 pm to discuss the Brownfield TIF and the result of Borden's research and negotiations.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Letter to Kevin McGraw
- b) Letter to Volunteers
- c) 3 on 3 Flyer

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

- Banks – Have a wonderful 4th of July.
- Brighton – DPW did a great job w/ storm clean-up
- Green – Appreciates our Police Department and DPW workers for their work.
- Halfmann – 3 on 3 is a great event. Pam Swiler does a great job, and the kids enjoy the events. Talked about the AI Policy committee meeting soon. Mark and Roy will work on a six-month review list for Mark's evaluation.
- Rush – Excited for the fireworks at the fair. Liked seeing neighbors helping each other with storm clean-up. Have a great holiday weekend.
- Yoder – Echoed thanks and appreciation. Was able to see Chief Backing in action and wanted her to know she is appreciated and noticed. Lakewood Area Ministerial Association will be hosting a Vacation Bible School July 14-16 at the Lake Odessa Fairgrounds.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pam Swiler appreciates that the 3 on 3 flyer was included in the council packet. A CMU basketball clinic will be held at the high school on July 21st. Thanked council for their continued support.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Halfmann, supported by Yoder, to adjourn the meeting. All ayes: motion carried 6-0.
Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy S. Forman
Village Clerk / Treasurer